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**FRISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT REMINDS RESIDENTS TO USE EXTREME CAUTION
WITH ALL OPEN FLAMES AND ANY HEAT GENERATING APPLIANCES, TOOLS;
EXTREME FIRE DANGER CONTINUES**

(January 6, 2006) Given our region's continued drought, windy conditions and lack of rain in forecasts, the Frisco Fire Department reminds residents to be extremely cautious with all open flame appliances – such as outdoor grills -- and any heat generating tools.

"Our summer like temperatures may tempt folks to cook outdoors, but we ask you use extreme caution when doing so," said Chief Mack Borchardt.

"We also ask you do the same when using construction equipment, such as welding tools. While buildings under construction without masonry are always susceptible to fire, the exposed wood is at greater risk of catching fire during these dry, windy conditions.

Since December of last year, the Frisco Fire Department has responded to 15 grass fires in Frisco – and provided mutual aid to The Colony and Little Elm on two additional grass fires. Of those 17 fires, the largest grassfire Frisco firefighters have helped extinguish was one in The Colony, which resulted in approximately 15 -20 acres of charred grassland. The most significant grassfire in Frisco burned fewer than 10 acres near the Hunters Creek Subdivision, which is located north of the intersection of S.H. 121 & Custer Road. While that fire spread quickly after being fueled by Cedar trees, firefighters were able to put it out before it reached any adjacent properties.

Chief Borchardt adds he suspects some of the city's grass fires were started by cigarettes and asks residents to refrain from discarding any smoking materials in anything other than ash trays.

While New Year's Day has passed, Chief Borchardt says it's worth reminding residents again that selling, possessing, purchasing or discharging fireworks is illegal within the City of Frisco and its extra territorial jurisdictions. Citations will be issued to violators, who could face fines of up to \$2,000.

All outdoor burning is banned in Collin and Denton counties.

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